**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Withdrawn): An image forming device comprising:

a paper feed member which applies force in a transport direction to a sheet and a separating member which applies the force in a direction of hindering the transport of the sheet, in which plural multifeed sheets are separated by the paper feed member and the separating member;

a sheet speed detecting part which detects the transport speed V2 of a sheet on the separating member side;

a multifeed sheet detecting part which detects the transport of plural sheets; and

a control part which determines to be non-multifeed and controls paper feed when the speed V2 detected by the sheet speed detecting part is $V2 \leq 0$ and the multifeed sheet detecting part detects the transport of plural sheets.

Claim 2 (Withdrawn) The image forming device according to claim 1, wherein the control part further determines to be multifeed and controls paper feed when the speed V2 detected by the sheet speed detecting part is $V2 > 0$ and the multifeed sheet detecting part detects the transport of plural sheets.

Claim 3 (Withdrawn): The image forming device according to claim 1, wherein the image forming device further comprises a nip regulating member which regulates nip pressure which is the pressure contact force of the paper feed part and the separating member or a nip space which is the space between the paper feed part and the separating member, and in the condition of determining the multifeed, the operation of the nip regulating member is controlled.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): An image forming device comprising:

a paper feed roll ~~member~~ which applies force in a transport direction to a sheet and a separating member which applies a ~~the~~ force in a direction of hindering the transport of the sheet, in which plural multifed sheets are separated by the paper feed member and the separating member;

a paper feed roll ~~member~~ side sheet speed detecting part which detects a ~~the~~ transport speed V1 of a sheet on a ~~the~~ paper feed roll ~~member~~ side;

a separating member side sheet speed detecting part which detects a ~~the~~ transport speed V2 of a sheet on a ~~the~~ separating member side;

a multifeed sheet detecting part which detects a ~~the~~ transport of plural sheets; and

a control part which determines ~~to be~~ a sheet multifeed state and controls paper feed when the relationship between the speed V1 detected by the paper feed roll ~~member~~ side sheet speed detecting part and the speed V2 detected by the separating member side sheet speed detecting part is V1>V2>0 and the multifeed sheet detecting part detects the transport of plural sheets.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The image forming device according to claim 4, wherein the image forming device further comprises a nip regulating member which regulates nip pressure which is the pressure contact force of a ~~the~~ paper feed part and the separating member or a nip space which is the space between the paper feed part and the separating member, and in the condition of determining the multifeed state, the operation of the nip regulating member is controlled.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The image forming device according to claim 4, further comprising:

a nip regulating member which regulates nip pressure which is the pressure contact force of a paper feed roll and the separating member or a ~~the~~ nip space which is the space between the paper feed roll and the separating member; and

a nip regulating part which controls the operation of the nip regulating member by gradually lowering nip pressure to release the multifeed state in the condition where the multifeed sheet detecting part determines ~~to be~~ a multifeed state.

Claim 7 (Withdrawn): A sheet transport device comprising:

a paper feed member which applies force in a transport direction to a sheet and a separating member which applies the force in a direction of hindering the transport of the sheet, in which plural multifeed sheets are separated by the paper feed member and the separating member;

a sheet speed detecting part which detects the transport speed V2 of a sheet on the separating member side;

a multifeed sheet detecting part which detects the transport of plural sheets;

a control part which determines to be non-multifeed and controls paper feed when the speed V2 detected by the sheet speed detecting part is $V2 \leq 0$ and the multifeed sheet detecting part detects the transport of plural sheets;

a nip regulating member which regulates nip pressure which is the pressure contact force of a paper feed roll and the separating member or the nip space which is the space between the paper feed roll and the separating member; and

a nip regulating part which controls the operation of the nip regulating member to release the multifeed in the condition where the multifeed sheet detecting part determines to be multifeed.

Claim 8 (Withdrawn): An image forming apparatus using a paper feeding device for feeding a paper, comprising:

a paper feeder for feeding the paper, the paper feeder, contacted on a first side of the paper, applying force in a transport direction to the paper;

a separating feeder, contacted on a second side of the paper, applying the force in a direction of hindering the transport of the paper, wherein plural multifeed papers are separated by the paper feeder and the separating feeder;

a paper speed detector for detecting transport speed V2 of the paper on a separating feeder side; and

a controller for controlling paper feeding as non-multifeed depending on the result of the paper speed detector.

Claim 9 (Withdrawn): The image forming apparatus as set forth in claim 8, wherein the controller controlling paper feeding as non-multifeed when the speed V2 detected by the paper speed detector is $V2 \leq 0$.

Claim 10 (Withdrawn): The image forming apparatus as set forth in claim 8, wherein the controller for controlling paper feeding as multifeed when the speed V2 detected by the paper speed detector is $V2 > 0$.

Claim 11 (Withdrawn): The image forming apparatus as set forth in claim 9, further comprising;

a multifeed paper detector for detecting the transport of plural papers, wherein even when the multifeed paper detector detects the transport of plural papers, the controller controlling paper feeding as non-multifeed.

Claim 12 (Withdrawn): The image forming apparatus as set forth in claim 11, wherein the multifeed paper detector is the mechanical detector which directly contacts on the paper for detecting the transport of plural papers.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): An image forming apparatus using a paper feeding device for feeding a paper, comprising:

a paper feeder for feeding the paper, wherein the paper feeder~~, contacted on a first side of the paper,~~ contacts an upper side of at least one paper and applies a ~~applying~~ force thereto in a transport direction ~~to~~ of the paper;

a separating feeder~~, contacted on a second side of the paper,~~ that contacts a lower side of the at least one paper and applies a ~~applying the~~ force thereto in a reverse direction to ~~of hindering~~ the transport direction ~~of the paper, wherein plural multifeed papers are separated by the paper feeder and the separating feeder~~;

a plural-paper detector that detects a plurality of papers transported between the paper feeder and the separating feeder;

a paper feeder side paper speed detector ~~which~~ that detects a ~~the~~ transport speed V1 of the paper ~~on the~~ in contact with the paper feeder ~~side~~;

a paper speed detector that detects ~~for detecting~~ a ~~the~~ transport speed V2 of the paper ~~on~~ in contact with the separating feeder ~~side~~; and

a controller for ~~controlling~~ determining a paper feeding state as a non-multifeed state or a multifeed state based ~~depending~~ on the result of detection by the plural-paper ~~speed~~ detector, ~~and a~~ the paper feeder side paper speed detector and the paper speed detector, and, upon determining the paper feeding state as the multifeed state, controlling the separating feeder to separate the plurality of papers and continue transporting the single paper in contact with the paper feeder.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The image forming apparatus as set forth in claim 13, wherein the controller is controlling paper feeding as the multifeed state when the relationship between the transport speeds V1 and V2 detected by the paper speed detector and the paper feeder side paper speed detector is V1>V2>0.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The image forming apparatus as set forth in claim 14, further comprising:

~~a multifeed paper detector for detecting the transport of plural papers,~~

wherein when the ~~multifeed~~ plural-paper detector detects the transport of the plurality of papers, the controller is controlling paper feeding as the multifeed state.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The image forming apparatus as set forth in claim 14, further comprising:

~~a multifeed paper detector for detecting the transport of plural papers,~~

wherein when the ~~multifeed~~ plural-paper detector detects the transport of the plurality of papers and the relationship between the transport speeds V1 and V2 detected by the paper speed detector and the paper feeder side paper speed detector is V1=V2, the controller is controlling paper feeding as the multifeed state.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): The image forming apparatus as set forth in claim 14, further comprising:

~~a multifeed paper detector for detecting the transport of plural papers,~~

wherein when the ~~multifeed~~ plural-paper detector does not detect the transport of the plurality of papers and the relationship between the transport speeds V1 and V2 detected by the paper speed detector and the paper feeder side paper speed detector is V1=V2, the controller is controlling paper feeding as the non-multifeed state.